

the past decade this group has worked to leverage funds and build new private-public partnership and establish unique and nurturing mentoring relationships that have ensured women have equal opportunity to start their own business.

The success of the Center is realized in the economic gains and confidence generated by its many participants and program graduates. Yet, for every success, there is a daily reminder that the Center's work is not complete as our region's entrepreneurs and small business owners remain in need of the valuable resources, experience and support needed to strengthen our economy and to create equal opportunities for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, it is with appreciation and acknowledgement of their important contributions, that I rise to congratulate all those responsible for achieving this milestone as the Women's Business Center celebrates its 10th anniversary in the Montante Cultural Center on the campus of Canisius College.

RECOGNIZING CHRIS COX, AN AMERICAN PATRIOT AND ONE-MAN MEMBER OF THE MONUMENT MILITIA

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an American who has shown enormous commitment to our country and veterans during this stalemate in Washington. In response to the partial government shutdown, Chris Cox, a resident of South Carolina, travelled to Washington to assemble the Monument Militia—a one-man mission to maintain the National Mall.

As some of our leaders in Washington, D.C. are unwilling to negotiate with members of the opposite political party to devise a solution to re-open the federal government—something the American people want and deserve—our national monuments and museums remain closed and National Park Service employees normally tasked with keeping the Mall clean remain furloughed.

Therefore, Mr. Cox took it upon himself to ensure the lawn of the iconic Lincoln Memorial was mowed and kept tidy for the thousands of veterans who will descend on our nation's capital this weekend for the Million Vet March.

When Mr. Cox was asked why he travelled from South Carolina, armed with just a chainsaw and lawn mower, to clean up our National Mall, he responded, "These are our memorials. If they shut down our memorials, we're still going to take the trash out, we're going to clean the windows, we're going to cut the grass, we're going to pull the weeds, we're going to do the tree work."

I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Cox just this weekend when riding my bike around the monuments—surveying how the shutdown has impacted our National Mall. Mr. Cox, carrying his state flag of South Carolina, expressed his sincerest hope that he would be able to clean the area around the Lincoln Memorial to the World War II Memorial because our veterans

dedicated their lives and fought for us so we should fight and honor them, even if the government is shut down.

This is the American spirit. This is the attitude and perseverance our Founding Fathers demonstrated in the face of adversity. Patriotic acts, like the ones recently displayed by Mr. Cox, serve as a great reminder of how Washington should conduct itself in this frustrating time.

I again offer Mr. Cox my sincerest and humble gratitude for his service and commitment to our nation and its veterans, as well as the passion and conviction that led him to Washington to make sure our National Mall looks its best for our heroes.

HEAD START CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTION, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, after months of refusing Democratic calls to negotiate a replacement to the sequester that slashed over \$400 million from the Head Start budget this year and eliminated slots for 50,000 children, I'm pleased to see some of my Republican colleagues acknowledging the importance of this early education program. However, to truly serve these kids and their families, we should pass a clean CR that will immediately send funding to those centers that did not receive their payments last week and then we should work together to replace the damaging sequester cuts.

A clean CR would reopen all programs for vulnerable children and their families. It would provide funding for the Community Action Agencies that represent one-third of all Head Start grantees. It would fund child care programs that help parents find affordable and safe places for their children when the Head Start day ends. And it would fund the Social Services Block Grant that helps fill gaps in services to help low-income families get back on their feet.

All of these vital programs are ignored in the resolution on the Floor today. I urge the Speaker to let the House vote on the Senate-passed CR and reopen the government now.

RECOGNIZING THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER PARKWAY AND CONSERVATION TRUST

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust (River Parkway Trust) in celebration of its 25th anniversary. The land around the San Joaquin River is protected due to the efforts of the River Parkway Trust, and we must thank them for all of their hard work.

The formation of the River Parkway Trust began in 1988 when citizens, landowners, and

agencies joined together to outline their goals. Over the past 25 years, the River Parkway Trust has worked with 18 land owners to protect almost 3,000 acres of land. In addition to the number of land purchases made by associates of the San Joaquin River Conservancy and the California Wildlife Conservation Board, the total amount of protected land has increased to over 4,000 acres.

The protected land provides individuals with a place to enjoy outdoor activities. One of the signature attractions of the River Parkway Trust is the Lewis S. Eaton Trail. The trail is used daily by bikers and hikers. It truly is a gem in our Central Valley.

A priority of the River Parkway Trust is to encourage young people to visit the river. Many school districts participate in field trips, so thousands of students have the opportunity to view the beautiful nature and landscape. In addition, the River Parkway Trust has a summer youth program that provides children with a week full of fun river activities. Each year, more than 1,000 youth visit the camp.

The River Parkway Trust also serves as a "natural defense" to floods. It keeps pollution from flowing into the water; therefore, preventing our drinking water from becoming contaminated. The River Parkway Trust has contributed to restoring the area's cultural past so that symbolic structures like the Riverview Ranch on Old Faint Road do not disappear. Maintaining structures that are significant to the area is important for the 20,000 visitors that go to the parkway each year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust as they celebrate 25 years of preserving the invaluable land around the San Joaquin River. Their outstanding commitment to protecting the Central Valley's natural resources must be commended.

IN HONOR OF TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2013

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join Taiwan in celebrating its National Day.

The United States and Taiwan enjoy a long, enduring relationship. Our partnership, codified in the Taiwan Relations Act, has been of great benefit to both our nations. Earlier this year, I was pleased to support legislation which, was signed into law, that encourages Taiwan's participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization.

To further our relationship, I support more bilateral exchanges between our two nations and would encourage my colleagues to familiarize themselves with the cultural and economic benefits that this relationship has produced.

Once again Mr. Speaker I rise to congratulate Taiwan on its National Day and I am confident that the close relationship between United States and Taiwan will continue for many years to come.